

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

In response to the Office Letter mailed herein on June 28, 2004, claim 6 of the application has been corrected and a terminal disclaimer is being submitted. Reconsideration of this application in view of the correction and submission is respectfully requested.


The Examiner objected to claim 6 for improper punctuation (lack of a period at the end of the claim). Claim 6 has been corrected to add the missing punctuation. Accordingly, withdrawal of the objection to claim 6 is respectfully requested.

The Examiner rejected claims 1-26 on two grounds of obviousness-type double patenting, citing U.S. Patent No. 6,623,881 as well as co-pending commonly assigned application Serial No. 10/422,356. In response to those rejections, a terminal disclaimer executed by the undersigned registered attorney of record is being submitted herewith. Reconsideration and withdrawal of these double patenting rejections in view of this terminal disclaimer are respectfully requested.

The Examiner indicated that claims 1-26 were directed to allowable subject matter, and would be allowed if the objections and rejections on the ground of double patenting were overcome. In light of the foregoing correction and accompanying terminal disclaimer, therefore, favorable reconsideration of this application, and allowance of claims 1-26 as corrected, are courteously solicited.

Applicants believe that no extension of time is necessary to make this Reply timely, but contingently request that the Office grant such time extension pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.136(a) as is necessary to make this Reply timely, if in fact such an extension is required. In that contingency the Office is hereby authorized to charge any necessary extension fee or surcharge to the deposit account of Corning Incorporated, Deposit Account 03-3325.

Respectfully submitted,



Kees van der Sterre
Attorney for Assignee
Reg. No. 25,938
Corning Incorporated
SP-TI-03-1
Corning, NY 14831
Phone: (607) 974-3294

DATE: September 28, 2004

Attachment: Terminal Disclaimer